

In the Claims:

1 – 25 (Canceled)

26. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 25 70, wherein the third protocol is a facsimile protocol.

27. (Canceled)

28. (Canceled)

29. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 28 71, wherein the third protocol is a facsimile protocol.

30-32 (Canceled)

33. (Previously Presented) A facsimile communication method, comprising the steps of:
entering into a portable traveler interface portion, at any place remote from the physical location of a scanner of a fax function and remote from the physical location of a host interface portion, a plurality of destination addresses including at least one email address and at least one telephone number;
communicating the plurality of destination addresses from the traveler interface portion to a host interface portion during a single communication session;
determining at the host interface portion each destination address of the plurality to be one of either an email address or a telephone number;
prompting by the host interface portion for placement of related hardcopy documents into the scanner of a fax function;
after the prompting step, generating image data from the hardcopy documents; and
communicating the image data from the fax function to at least one address entered into the traveler interface portion.

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34. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 33, and, in response to the determining step, if the destination address entered at the traveler interface portion is a telephone number, initiating a connection to a first communication network by the host interface portion dialing the destination address entered at the traveler interface portion to open a communication line, and releasing the communication line for direct connection to the fax function.
35. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 34, and, in response to the determining step, if the destination address entered at the traveler interface portion is an email address, initiating a connection to a forwarding facility by the host interface portion dialing a pre-established address for accessing a server, to open a communication line between the host interface portion and the forwarding facility, and releasing the communication line for direct connection between the forwarding facility and the fax function.
36. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 33, and, in response to the determining step, if the destination address entered at the traveler interface portion is an email address, initiating a connection to a forwarding facility by the host interface portion dialing a pre-established address for accessing a server, to open a communication line between the host interface portion and the forwarding facility, and releasing the communication line for direct connection between the forwarding facility and the fax function.
37. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 33, and, in response to the determining step, dialing by the host interface of an appropriate telephone number.

38-46 (Canceled)

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47. (Previously Presented) The method of claims 33, wherein each destination address of the plurality of destination addresses is entered either in a syntactically correct format as recognized by a telephone network or in a syntactically correct format as recognized by a computer network.

48-52 (Canceled)

53. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~52~~ 72, wherein the establishing step comprises the steps of:

recognizing by the host interface portion that a fax-to-email task has been received from the personal data assistant requiring delivery of a facsimile message to an email address on a computer network; and
dialing by the host interface portion of a pre-established address for accessing the forwarding facility.

54. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~52~~ 72, further comprising the steps of:
receiving custom text at the personal data assistant while the personal data assistant is located away from the physical location of the fax function;
conveying the custom text from the personal data assistant to the host interface portion during the first data exchange; and
conveying the custom text from the host interface portion to the forwarding facility during the second data exchange; and
wherein the delivering step includes at least the steps of
creating at the forwarding facility an email message containing the image as an attachment and, as part of the email message body, the custom text, and transmitting the email message from the forwarding facility to the destination address.

55. (Canceled)

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56. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~55~~ 73, wherein the establishing step comprises the steps of:

recognizing by the host interface portion that a fax-to-email task has been received from the personal data assistant requiring delivery of a facsimile message to an email address on a computer network; and
dialing by the host interface portion of a pre-established address for accessing the forwarding facility.

57. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~55~~ 73, further comprising the steps of: receiving custom text at the personal data assistant while the personal data assistant is located away from the physical location of the fax function;

conveying the custom text from the personal data assistant to the host interface portion during the first data exchange; and
conveying the custom text from the host interface portion to the forwarding facility during the second data exchange; and

wherein the delivering step includes at least the steps of
creating at the forwarding facility an email message containing the image as an attachment and, as part of the email message body, the custom text, and
transmitting the email message from the forwarding facility to the destination address.

58. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 33, further comprising the steps of:

after the step of generating image data, prompting by the host interface portion for placement of another hardcopy document into the scanner of the fax function; and
generating image data from the another hardcopy document.

59. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 58, further comprising the steps of:
repeating the prompting and generating steps for a number of times equal to the
number of destination addresses in the plurality of destination addresses.
60. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 58, wherein the communicating step
includes at least the steps of:
dialing by the host interface portion a pre-established address for accessing a
forwarding facility and establishing a communication session with the
forwarding facility;
conveying generated image data and at least one received destination addresses to
the forwarding facility;
creating at the forwarding facility an email message containing the image as an
attachment and, as part of the email message body, the custom text, and
transmitting the email message from the forwarding facility to the destination
address.
61. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 60, wherein the communicating step further
includes at least the steps of:
dialing by the host interface portion a destination address entered at the traveler
interface portion to open a communication line; and
transmitting image data to the destination address.
62. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 58, wherein the communicating step
includes at least the steps of:
dialing by the host interface portion a destination address entered at the traveler
interface portion to open a communication line; and
transmitting image data to the destination address.

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63. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 60, wherein the communicating step further includes at least the steps of:
- passing by the host interface portion to the fax function a destination address entered at the traveler interface portion ;
- dialing by the fax function the destination address entered at the traveler interface portion to open a communication line; and
- transmitting image data to the destination address.
64. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 58, wherein the communicating step includes at least the steps of:
- passing by the host interface portion to the fax function a destination address entered at the traveler interface portion ;
- dialing by the fax function the destination address entered at the traveler interface portion to open a communication line; and
- transmitting image data to the destination address.
65. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 33, wherein the traveler interface portion is a specially programmed personal data assistant.
66. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 33, wherein the host interface portion is associated with the fax function at which the hardcopy documents are scanned.
67. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 66, wherein the host interface portion is connected to the fax function.
68. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 67, wherein said host portion is physically linked to but functionally separate from, the fax function.
69. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 67, wherein said host portion is integrated with, but functionally separate from, the fax function.

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70. (New) A facsimile communication method, including the steps of:
receiving at a personal data assistant a destination address;
conveying via a first data exchange the received address from the personal data assistant to a host interface portion together with commands instructing the host interface portion to initiate a facsimile delivery;
establishing, through the dialing of a destination address different from the destination address received during the receiving step, a communication session between the host interface portion and a forwarding facility;
conveying the received address from the host interface portion to the forwarding facility, during the first communication session via a second data exchange independent of the first data exchange;
conveying an image from a fax function associated with the host interface portion to the forwarding facility, during the first communication session via a third data exchange independent of the first and the second data exchanges; and
delivering the image as an electronic file from the forwarding facility to the destination address received at the personal data assistant; and
wherein the first data exchange involves at least a first protocol, and the second data exchange involves at least a second protocol different from the first protocol, and the third data exchange involves at least a third protocol different from each of the first and second protocols.

71. (New) A facsimile communication method, including the steps of:
receiving at a personal data assistant an alphanumeric email address, being the address of a mailbox on a computer network;
conveying via a first data exchange the received address from the personal data assistant to a host interface portion together with commands instructing the host interface portion to initiate a facsimile delivery;
establishing a communication session between the host interface portion and a forwarding facility;

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conveying the received address from the host interface portion to the forwarding facility, during the first communication session via a second data exchange independent of the first data exchange;

conveying an image from the fax function associated with the host interface portion to the forwarding facility, during the first communication session via a third data exchange independent of the first and the second data exchanges; and

delivering the image as an electronic file from the forwarding facility to the destination address received at the personal data assistant; and

wherein the first data exchange involves at least a first protocol, and the second data exchange involves at least a second protocol different from the first protocol, and the third data exchange involves at least a third protocol different from each of the first and second protocols.

72. (Currently Amended) A facsimile communication method, including the steps of:
receiving at a personal data assistant a destination address;
conveying via a first data exchange the received address from the personal data assistant to a host interface portion together with commands instructing the host interface portion to initiate a facsimile delivery;
establishing, through the dialing of a destination address different from the destination address received during the receiving step, a communication session between the host interface portion and a forwarding facility;
conveying the received address from the host interface portion to the forwarding facility, during the first communication session via a second data exchange independent of the first data exchange;
- conveying an image from a fax function associated with the host interface portion to the forwarding facility, during the first communication session via a third data exchange independent of the first and the second data exchanges; and
- delivering the image as an electronic file from the forwarding facility to the destination address received at the personal data assistant;

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the receiving step occurs while the personal data assistant is located away from the physical location of the fax function; and
the step of conveying the received address to a host interface portion occurs while the host interface portion is linked to the fax function; and
prior to the step of conveying the image but after the step of conveying the received address to the host interface portion, including the step of prompting for the placement of a hardcopy into the scanner of the fax function.

73. (Currently Amended) A facsimile communication method, including the steps of:
receiving at a personal data assistant an alphanumeric email address, being the address of a mailbox on a computer network;
conveying via a first data exchange the received address from the personal data assistant to a host interface portion together with commands instructing the host interface portion to initiate a facsimile delivery;
establishing a communication session between the host interface portion and a forwarding facility;
conveying the received address from the host interface portion to the forwarding facility, during the first communication session via a second data exchange independent of the first data exchange;
conveying an image from the fax function associated with the host interface portion to the forwarding facility, during the first communication session via a third data exchange independent of the first and the second data exchanges; and
delivering the image as an electronic file from the forwarding facility to the destination address received at the personal data assistant;
the receiving step occurs while the personal data assistant is located away from the physical location of the fax function; and
the step of conveying the received address to a host interface portion occurs while the host interface portion is linked to the fax function; and

prior to the step of conveying the image but after the step of conveying the received address to the host interface portion, including the step of prompting for the placement of a hardcopy into the scanner of the fax function.

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